



#5 Prc-Amendment  
 PTO/PCT Rec'd 18 JUN 2002 D. Townsend  
 06/09/03  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 623-3001

In re Application of CHOATE, Gary E., et al.

PCT No.: PCT/US00/27754

U.S. Serial No.: 09/831,131

Examiner:

International Filing Date: October 6, 2000

Art Group:

FOR: CONFINED SPACE ENTRY DEVICE AND A RELATED METHOD OF ASSEMBLY

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, DC 20231

SIR:

Please amend this patent application as follows and examine the application in view of the amendments and remarks provided.

**AMENDMENTS**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-15 and substitute the following claims:

- 1 16. (Newly added) A man-rated device to which a person is removably secured, the device for  
 2 use with an associated structure which the person intends to access, the device comprising:  
 3 multiple, modular components dimensioned to be man-rated when  
 4 assembled, the components including a base and at least one, elongated,  
 5 substantially cylindrical member, the base having an element adapted to be mounted in  
 6 operative proximity to the associated structure, the member formed substantially from at  
 7 least one material selected from the group consisting of aluminum, carbon fiber  
 8 composites, KEVLAR fibers, fiberglass, and aluminum-ceramic composites;  
 9 the member having one end removably secured to the base  
 10 without being welded thereto, the other end of the member having means for removably

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for First-Class Mail in an Envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231

on: JUNE 7 2002

by: Ellen Welter

Name: ELLEN WELTER  
 (printed)